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Resolution 1963-11-21 Disposition of Public Recreation Lands

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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RESOLUTION NO. 10

SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE TO RESEARCH ON COMMERCIAL FISH SPECIES

Whereas, the United States' national position in world fisheries has been rapidly declining as a result of greatly expanded fishery operations by other nations, and

Whereas, the commercial fisheries of the United States now and in the future will be essential in supplying food to expanding populations, and

Whereas, the fisheries industry in many sections of the United States is in a depressed condition, and

Whereas, the rapid acceleration of research and development of fish stocks is essential to the reversal of this trend, and

Whereas, the various states in the United States are unable to finance the necessary research and development, and

Whereas, Senate Bill S. 627 recognizes the need and responsibility of the federal government to assist in the development of strong national commercial fisheries, and it also recognizes the states' role in these fisheries,

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the International Association of State Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners that its full support be given to the early enactment of Senate Bill S. 627 (Bartlett) so that fishery research and development may be vigorously pursued.

RESOLUTION NO. 11

DISPOSITION OF PUBLIC RECREATION LANDS

Whereas, H.R. 5498 has been introduced into the Congress of the United States to provide for the disposal of certain lands, and

Whereas, such legislation could be interpreted to allow public lands valuable for public recreation purposes to be sold to private individuals,

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the International Association of State Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners that H.R. 5498, and any comparable proposed legislation, be amended to assure the retention in public ownership of lands of specific value for recreation purposes.

Be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Secretary of the Interior and to the Committees of Interior and Insular Affairs.

RESOLUTION NO. 12

HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION

Whereas, the construction of highways often can have adverse effects upon fish and wildlife and other outdoor recreational and scenic values through the relocation and siltation of streams, by destruction of wildlife habitat and natural areas, and with disruption of migratory routes for big game; and

Whereas, important fish and wildlife and recreational values in the past have been ignored by state highway construction agencies; now,

Therefore be it resolved, that the International Association of Game, Fish, and Conservation Commissioners hereby commends the Bureau of Public Roads (U.S. Department of Commerce) for its action, after consultation with personnel of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife (U.S. Department of the Interior), to require as a requisite for federal financial aid for road construction that state highway departments confer with state wildlife agencies in developing plans to hold fish and wildlife losses to a minimum.

RESOLUTION NO. 13

WILD RIVERS

Whereas, fewer and fewer streams remain in undeveloped, natural conditions each year due to increasing demands for water for such purposes as irrigation, power generation, navigation, municipal and industrial supplies, and water quality controls; and,

Whereas, high dams and other obstructions seal off fresh water spawning areas for anadromous fishes; and,

Whereas, many species of fish which furnish important recreational opportunities to millions of Americans require flowing water;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners hereby expresses the conviction that the highest public interest is served when those streams with outstanding recreational values are preserved in undeveloped, free-flowing conditions; and

Be it further resolved that this Association commends the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture for initiating a comprehensive study of those streams which should be maintained as wild rivers.

RESOLUTION NO. 14

RAMPART DAM

Whereas, a high dam on the Yukon river at Rampart Canyon in Alaska would inundate an estimated 10,500 square miles of prime nesting habitat for waterfowl, an international resource of high value; and,

Whereas, such an impoundment would block runs of anadromous fishes, which are important North American resources; and,

Whereas, damage would occur to big game and furbearer populations as well;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners hereby expresses its belief and conviction that power needs for Alaska can best be met through alternate methods or by hydro-electric developments at other sites which will not result in such widespread fish and wildlife losses as would occur with the proposed Rampart project.